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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Schwerin

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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20 March 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Following the departure of troops on 17 February 1952, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on the east side of Ludwigsluster Chaussee, Schwerin (M 54/T 46), quartered about 4,000 troops prior to 20 February. Most of the troops observed in the billeting area wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and a few, red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. In addition, there were some uniformed women of all ranks with black-bordered red epaulets and some officers, including some with silver epaulets. Six artillery pieces of 122-mm or 152-mm stood in front of the garages. (F-5) Forty-four 82-mm mortars were counted in the billeting area on 25 January. (F-5) Fifteen groups of about 8 soldiers each were seen receiving basic training in the billeting area on 20 February, while about 120 other troops engaged in physical training and about 250 troops received field and telephone training in the wooded area southeast and southwest of the road to Ludwigslust. Reports of mortars were heard from the wooded area southeast of the barracks installation throughout the period of observation. Three new obstacle courses had been constructed, so that the billeting area contained a total of four obstacle courses.

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2. Prior to 21 February, the Hindenburg Kaserne on the west side of Guestrowerstrasse quartered about 2,500 troops. No troops were seen arriving or departing. The soldiers observed wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery and motor transport insignia, and black-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia. In addition, there were uniformed women, including some with officer rank and some wearing silver epaulets. About 100 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were seen practicing with two artillery pieces of about 80-mm in the Werderholz training area on 18 February. Rifle and machine gun fire was heard from the target ranges. The entire Werderholz training area from the target ranges as far as the western shore of the Schwerin Lake was restricted to civilians. The boundary of the military reservation was marked by off-limits signs and guarded by sentries on watchtowers in the training area.

3. Prior to 21 February, the quarters at Goerries airfield were occupied by about 4,000

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troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery and signal insignia, and black-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal and engineer insignia. A relatively large number of officers were noticed. Four caterpillar tractors and four artillery pieces which seemed to be 100-mm M guns, were in the center of the airfield on 31 January. Radio stations were still located in the southeastern corner and in the center of the airfield. Many soldiers were seen in the billeting area. Rifle and machine gun fire was heard from the target ranges.

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4. The tank training area was located south of Sternbuchholz, was about 4 km wide, and extended along the west side of highway No 106 from kilometermarks 26.0 to 26.8. The woods in this area were cut down. There were off-limit signs at the training area. The area contained an observation tower, about 15 meters high, and a wooden house with a porch. The two structures were used as command posts for tank exercises. Ten T-34/85 tanks were seen in the training area on 20 February. The noise of tank motors indicated that more tanks were in the training area. Three officers stood on the observation tower.

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5. [redacted] the southern section of the Fritsch Kaserne on the west side of Johann Stelling Strasse housed a headquarters with about 100 officers. Up to 60 officers were seen on several days of observation. [redacted] a general was assigned to the headquarters. The northern section of the Fritsch Kaserne was occupied by about 1,000 troops on 15 February. Soldiers observed in the billeting area wore: red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery and motor transport insignia; black-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia; and a few, black-bordered red epaulets. No heavy weapons were noticed.

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6. Prior to 14 February, the Moltke Kaserne on the west side of Ludwigscluster Strasse quartered an undetermined number of troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. The installation did not seem to be occupied to capacity as the buildings were only about 50 percent lighted after nightfall.

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7. Prior to 14 February, the Krueger Kaserne quartered about 1,500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia.

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8. [redacted] the Adolf Hitler Kaserne [redacted] quartered a fully motorized infantry unit and an engineer unit. * The garages and storage buildings in the eastern section of the billeting area sheltered motor vehicles and those in the northern section, artillery pieces. [redacted] four Soviet generals were stationed in Schworin, and that the commanding general's headquarters were in a building on Schloss Strasse where the SOC headquarters was also located. The SOC was headed by a civilian. Two of the generals were stationed in Goerries, while the fourth belonged to the troops in the Fritsch Kaserne. One of the southernmost buildings of the Fritsch Kaserne was an officers' house which was frequently used by officers of units other than those in the barracks installation. The two headquarters previously located on Schlossgarten Allee and in the former DAF building had allegedly moved to Goerries. In addition to the headquarters, the installation at Goerries airfield quartered troops, primarily artillery troops. 50X1-HUM
9. On 13 February, five T-34 tanks were observed being cleaned and subsequently garaged in the Moltke Kaserne. Four T-34 tanks [redacted] each carrying 1 officer and 5 men, were seen entering the installation on 14 February. A T-34 chassis was used for driving practice by five soldiers in the training area opposite the installation. 50X1-HUM
10. Prior to 22 February, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Guesstrower Strasse quartered troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. No training activity was noticed on 11 February. Only about 15 trucks were observed being serviced in front of the garages. Three companies, each consisting of three platoons, left the installation at about 7:30 p.m., apparently for a night march. Each platoon consisted of 1 officer and 33 or 34 men who were armed with carbines and submachine guns. About 200 troops with small arms were engaged in intensive training in the barracks yard on 18 February. All of the barracks buildings were lighted after nightfall. 50X1-HUM
- [redacted]
11. Prior to 16 February, the Moltke Kaserne was occupied by soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets. About 20 groups of 12 men each trained with rifles and submachine guns in the barracks yard on 13 February, while crews of 1 officer and 11 men practiced with two 122-mm field howitzers. Close-order drill at squad level was again noticed in the barracks yard on 16 February, while six platoons, each of about 30 soldiers with small arms and entrenching tools, marched out of the installation. A total of eight officers was observed with the platoons. Trucks [redacted] each towing a 122-mm howitzer, left the Moltke Kaserne toward Sternbuchholz at about 10 a.m. 50X1-HUM
- [redacted]
12. Prior to 14 February, the Kruoger Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Strasse quartered an undetermined number of troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. No training activity was noticed in the billeting area, but about 500 of about 800 troops engaged in field training at Sternbuchholz were seen marching to

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the Krueger Kaserne at about 4 p.m. The remaining 300 troops went to the Adolf Hitler Kaserne.

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13. On 15 February, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Ludwigsburger Chaussee quartered about 2,500 troops. Gate guards wore black-bordered crimson epaulets without branch-of-service insignia. All of the barracks buildings were lighted after nightfall. Troops were seen servicing six T-34/85 tanks in the northern section of the installation, while about 400 troops with hand arms practiced at squad level in the southern section of the billeting area. Four SU-100 SP guns were seen on the Grosser Dresch training field north of the installation.

14.

<u>Installation</u>	<u>Officers after whom units were named</u>
Goerries airfield	Filipov, Khramenko, Kudravitsov, Nikolayev
Fritsch Kaserne	Nikolayev, Milken, Frolov
Adolf Hitler Kaserne	Zalomonov, Gollovonov
Hindenburg Kaserne	Zinon, Kirilov
Moltke Kaserne	Chishok, Gollub
Krueger Kaserne	Romachenko, Gollub, Polykov
Quarters on Lisch Strasse	Markov, Barcikov, Poshekhonov
Beethoven school	Petrushin
Quarters on Hagenower Strasse	Frolov, Filipov.
Zeugant	Shrinov
Schlossgarten	Frolov
Lazarett	Pavlov

* Comment. Paragraph 1 contains information pertaining to the loading operations which were observed in Schwerin on 16 and 17 February 1952 and which probably affected also units from the Adolf Hitler Kaserne.

The information regarding mortars and 122-mm or 152-mm guns in the installation are given little credence, because the installation is believed to quarter the 286th Gds Itz Rifle Regt and the 176th AAA Regt (Pn ?) of the 94th Gds Itz Rifle Div, and not, as stated in paragraph 8, an engineer unit.

** Comment. The Goerries Fliegerhorst is believed to house the Hq IX Gds Itz Rifle Corps and corps headquarters units which, according to paragraph 3, may consist of artillery, signal and engineer units and headquarters elements. The two generals who, according to paragraph 3 of the present report, are stationed in Goerries are believed to belong to the Hq IX Gds Itz Rifle Corps.

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One of the generals probably is the commanding general who has his residence on Schlosstrasse. The Hq 94th Gds Itz Rifle Div, previously located in the IAF building, probably moved to the Fritsch Kaserno, as indicated by the presence of a general with his staff in the barracks installation.

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*** Comment. This list specifies the occupation of the barracks installations in Schwerin prior to the movements which occurred in mid-November 1951.

Under the assumption that the list actually states regiments and independent battalions rather than any organic components, the information constitutes a valuable supplement to previous knowledge of the disposition of units at the post. The officers mentioned in the present report, whose first names were not listed, some of whom are known from previous reports, may be commanding officers and administrative officers as well.

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As the Adolf Hitler Kaserno quarters only two units, namely an infantry regiment and an AAA unit, probably the 176th AAA Regt or Bn of the 94th Gds Itz Rifle Div, and as Unit Gollovonov has long been known as an AAA unit which, for example, moved to Tustrow in April 1950, it is probable that the aforementioned AAA regiment or battalion is under the command of Gollovonov. Colonel Abramenkov (?) has been carried as the commanding officer of the unit as he was once reported to hold this position in April 1948.

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